

Mike Dunleavy, Governor Julie Sande, Commissioner Robert M. Pickett, Chairman

Regulatory Commission of Alaska

May 20, 2022

In reply refer to: Tariff Section File: TA525-8

LO #: L2200164

Arthur Miller Acting Chief Executive Officer Chugach Electric Association, Inc. P.O. Box 196300 Anchorage, AK 99519-6300

Dear Mr. Thibert:

Chugach Electric Association, Inc. (Chugach) filed TA525-8 on April 5, 2022, seeking to revise its billing provisions. On May 19, 2022, the Regulatory Commission of Alaska approved Tariff Sheet Nos. 27, 31, 33, 34, and 40, filed April 5, 2022, by Chugach with TA525-8. The effective date of the tariff sheets is May 20, 2022.

Enclosed are validated copies of the approved tariff sheets. Please note that the effective date has been updated to reflect May 20, 2022.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION

Sincerely,

REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Becki Alvey

Tariff Section Manager

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Enclosures

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6th Revision

Canceling

5th Revision

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STATE OF ALASKA
REGULATORY COMMISSION OF ALASKA

Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

6. BILLING AND COLLECTIONS

6.1 Payment of Bills

Bills for electric service are due and payable immediately on the billing date shown on the bill. The billing date will not vary from the postmark date by more than three (3) days.

Payments for service may be made by cash, check, debit or credit card through a variety of payment channels, including Chugach's website, Interactive Voice Response phone system, mail, or in-person at our service center as indicated in Section 5.12 of this tariff. Beginning D, N March 1, 2018, Chugach will accept credit card payments without the customer paying a third-party attendant transaction fee. A maximum of two credit card payments totaling no more than \$2,000 will be accepted within a 26-day period, per member account. A bill will be considered paid when the money is received by Chugach.

A member's failure to receive bills or notices which have been properly addressed and placed in the United States mail or delivered electronically will not prevent the bills from becoming past due or delinquent or excuse the member's responsibility for payment.

No member who tenders a non-sufficient funds check or other dishonored method of payment will be relieved of the obligation to pay Chugach under the original terms of the bill or be entitled to defer Chugach's right to disconnect service for non-payment of bills.

(a) Past Due Bills

Bills which are not paid in full within 25 days of the billing date will be considered past due unless the member enters into a deferred payment agreement with Chugach, in accordance with Section 6.2 of this tariff, within the 25-day period. A late payment fee, as set forth in the applicable Schedule of Fees, will be charged for all bills that become past due. All past due amounts as well as the late charge will be included and separately indicated on the following month's bill.

Tariff Advice No. 525-8 Issued by: Effective: May 20, 2022

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Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

6.7 LEVEL PAY BILLING

(a) Eligibility

The Level Pay Plan is a voluntary billing option available to residential and small general service members who receive service at a location where 12 months of billing history is available, and whose account is not currently delinquent, unless the member has entered into a deferred payment agreement. Participants in the plan are subject to Chugach's rules and regulations expressed in this tariff. Members interested in signing up for the Level Pay Plan may contact Chugach's Member Services Department as indicated in Section 5.12 of this tariff.

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(b) **Billing Amount**

A member electing to participate in the Level Pay Plan will pay a monthly amount equal to the average of the total of the most recent 12 months' bills as of the date the Level Pay Plan billing amount is established. This monthly payment shall be made for 12 successive months. After 12 months a new Level Pay Plan billing amount will be calculated based on the average bill of the prior budget year less any over-recovery or plus any under-recovery from the prior year. Thus, any variance between actual and level pay bills is included in the calculation of the new level pay billing amount by spreading it over the 12 months in the new budget year. Upon request, at the time the new Level Pay Plan billing amount is established. Chugach will provide customers with a separate check representing any over-collected amounts.

(c) Adjustments to Billing Amount

The accounts of Level Pay Plan members will be reviewed periodically during the yearly billing cycle to compare actual bills with the budgeted amounts. If this review indicates a significant variation of actual billings versus anticipated, seasonally adjusted billings, Chugach will adjust the member's monthly level pay figure to bring the account into approximate balance by the last level pay bill in the cycle.

The monthly Level Pay Plan billing amount may be adjusted for changes in Chugach's base rates or fuel adjustment factors when such changes have, in the judgment of Chugach, a material impact on member bills.

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Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

(e) <u>Delinquency and Termination (Continued)</u>

Any member who terminates participation in the Level Pay Plan, but not service, will have any outstanding credit balance applied to their current bill. Any credit balance in excess of that credited to the next bill will be credited to future bills or refunded at the member's request.

An outstanding balance owed Chugach will be due on the member's current bill and subject to normal collection procedures.

(f) Disputes

Members who dispute the correctness of a bill shall notify Chugach and state reasoning in support of their position. Such notice shall not be sufficient reason to withhold payment of the undisputed portion of the bill. If a bill is found to be incorrect, Chugach will credit the amount of overpayment to the next bill rendered. Any amount due the member, in excess of that credited to the next bill, will be credited to future bills or will be refunded at the member's request.

6.8 Non-Sufficient Fund Balance Fee

Without waiving any rights under AS 09.65.115 to collect penalties, a non-sufficient fund balance fee as set forth in the applicable Schedule of Fees will be charged for dishonored checks, overdraft notices related to automated bank withdrawals, or non-sufficient fund balances associated with credit card charges. Any person who has been charged two consecutive non-sufficient fund balance fees within a twelve-month period may be denied the privilege of paying using the payment mediums to which the non-sufficient balance fund fees were applied. Future payments will be required to be in cash or another medium of payment approved by the Manager of Credit and Collections or a Member Services representative.

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6.9 Disconnection of Service

(a) By Request

If a member contacts Chugach, in person, in writing, or by another contact method, to request that service be disconnected, Chugach may hold that member responsible for all services, up to the later of the date of the disconnection, or three working days after the date of the member request.

(b) Without Notice

Chugach may disconnect a member's service without advance written notice under the following conditions:

- 1. an immediate hazard exists which threatens the safety or health of the member, the general population or Chugach's personnel or facilities;
- 2. Chugach has evidence of meter tampering or fraud by the member; or,
- 3. a member has failed to comply with the curtailment procedures imposed by Chugach during emergency supply shortages.

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Chugach Electric Association, Inc.

6.11 Annual Prepaid Bill

A member who prepays electric service for a future twelve-month period will receive a credit to their bill. The credit amount is identified on Chugach's Schedule of Fees and Credits (Tariff Sheet No.75.1). The prepayment amount will be calculated by multiplying the average monthly bill at the location by twelve. The credit will be applied once payment is received. Any outstanding balance on the account must be paid prior to or with the prepayment. Service will continue to be delivered and paid for on an actual cost basis by monthly credits against the prepayment amount less the billing credit provided by Chugach. The actual period of prepayment will vary based on usage so that usage greater than projected will result in a shorter prepayment period while less usage than projected will result in a longer prepayment period. Members will continue to receive monthly billing statements, and if the prepayment credit is T reduced to zero, members will be responsible to remit payment for the amount due. If the T member terminates service from Chugach, the unused credit will be refunded.

6.12 Electronic Bill Presentation (Paperless Billing)

A member may elect to receive the monthly electric bill for an account electronically and no longer receive paper bills for that account. Members that elect to participate in paperless billing for an account will receive a one-time credit to their bill for that account. The credit amount is identified on Chugach's Schedule of Fees and Credits (Tariff Sheet No. 75.1). The member may choose to discontinue paperless billing at any time. However, a member may not be provided more than one electronic billing credit for each account. Notices for termination of electric service for nonpayment will continue to be delivered by U.S. Mail.

6.13 Adjustment for Tax or Surcharge

The amount of any tax or surcharge imposed by Federal, State, Municipal or other governmental authority on the Association, or its revenue or income, that is not required to be recovered through a tariff approved by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska shall be apportioned to the locality in which such tax or surcharge is effective, and among the various classes of service furnished therein. Such amounts to be collected shall constitute an additional charge billed to members. Such taxes or surcharges shall be collected and administered consistent with the manner prescribed by the governing agency.